UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA · COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

BUNKHOUSE WITH SEPARATE ROOMS

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This plan is one of a series prepared to aid farmers in selecting farm-labor housing during the war and in securing, at the same time, a semipermanent structure. The bunkhouse, of simple design, provides adequate floor space, with good lighting and ventilation. When properly arranged in a camp group it presents a neat appearance. It satisfies, moreover, the requirements of the State Labor Housing and Sanitation Act.

Restrictions on Materials

Farmers planning to build should familiarize themselves with available local materials. They should make certain, through county war boards and other federal agencies, that they are obeying the regulations regarding critical goods. Substitutions will often be necessary.

Size and Arrangement

The illustration on pages 2 and 3 shows a six-man bunkhouse, 16 × 46 feet, with washroom and porch. Few details are included; the plan merely suggests a style recommended where greater privacy is desired for year-round workers. Sturdy construction is necessary, with durable exterior walls and roof. Though single and double rooms are proposed, all rooms may be either double or single. Insulated walls and ceilings may be desired, as well as central heating, to maintain comfortable room temperatures.

Local influences and the requirements of the workers will determine what combination of room arrangements is best. A limit of fifteen persons is specified, by the State Labor Housing and Sanitation Act, for a single flush closet and shower. When large-sized units are planned, an additional double room, adjacent to the bath, may well be provided for recreation. Single rooms of 8 × 12 feet, though larger than required by law, are desirable for permanent quarters and necessary to provide safe distances from stoves (if there is a stove in each room). Double rooms 10 × 12 feet will each provide space for two men, but not for a stove unless double-deck bunks are used. For two single cots, a 12 × 12 room is preferable.

Floors

Where drainage conditions are good, a concrete floor is recommended. It is permanent, rodentproof, easily cleaned, and in some regions cheaper than lumber floor construction. A raised curb under exterior walls affords superior protection from the weather, and convenience for mopping or sweeping. Plans for the usual type of wooden floor construction are also shown.

Walls

Double sheathing should be placed on the 8-foot exterior walls, where rustic or other weatherproof siding can be used. The interior of the studs may be finished with 8-foot panel boards, pressed wood, plaster boards, or lath and plaster. Ceilings are recommended in houses of this type and can be finished the same as the walls.

In regions of extreme heat or cold, insulation in walls and ceiling will help to maintain a more uniform temperature indoors. The attic should be ventilated by louvered and screened openings in the gable ends.

Roofing

Any available standard roofing will serve--for example, composition or wooden shingles. Sometimes corrugated iron or asbestos-cement board is found practical.

Windows, Doors, and Screens

Double-hung windows are recommended. Other types, such as the drop-in or sliding sash, may be satisfactory and more economical, but are harder to weatherproof. Windows, as well as doors, should have screens. All the openings in this bunkhouse are exterior, and full-panel or panel-and-glass doors should be used. Screen doors may be of either the full-screen or the panel-and-screen type.

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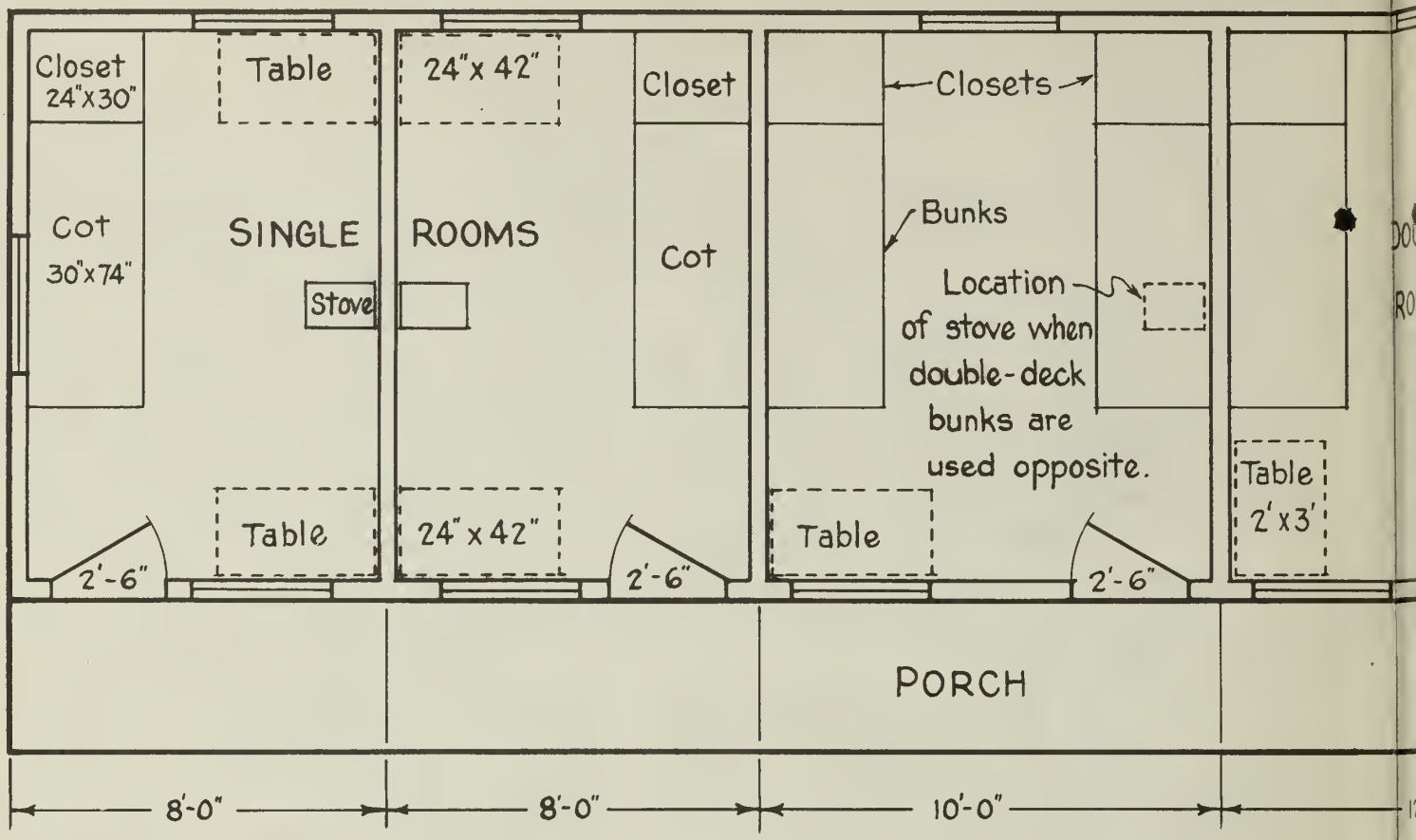
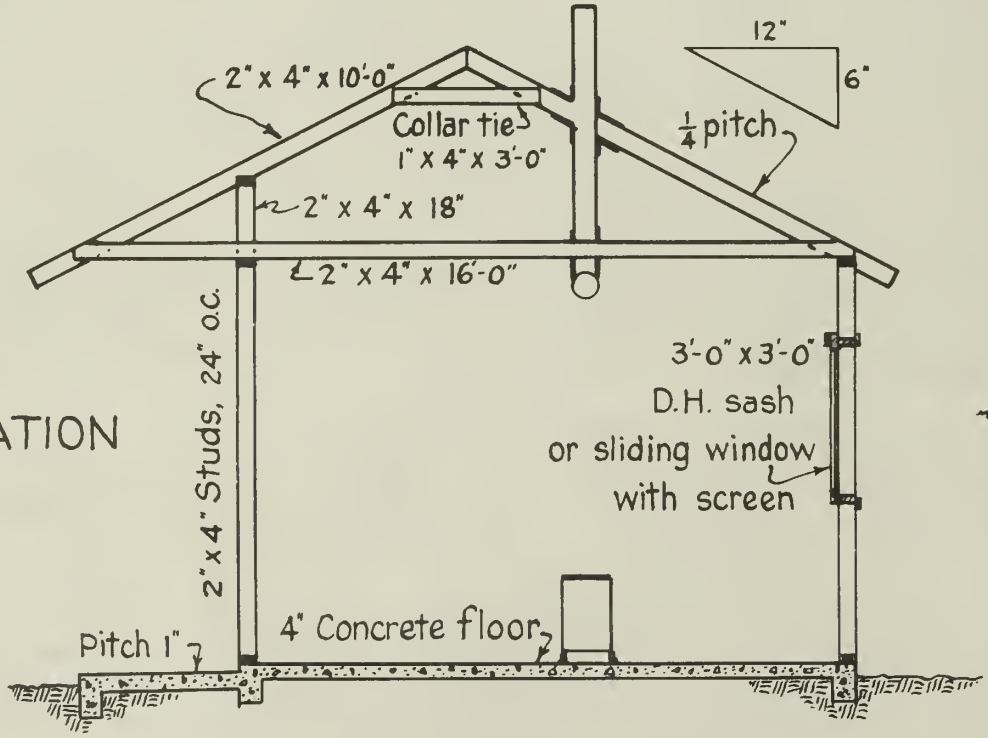
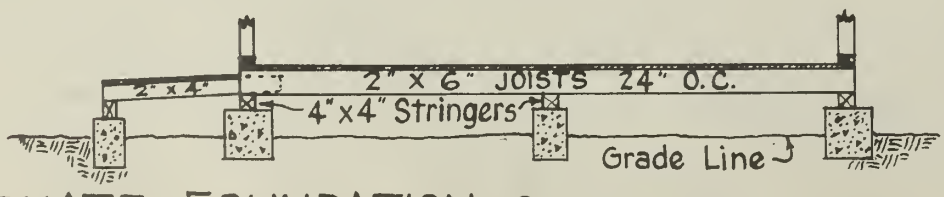




ELEVATION



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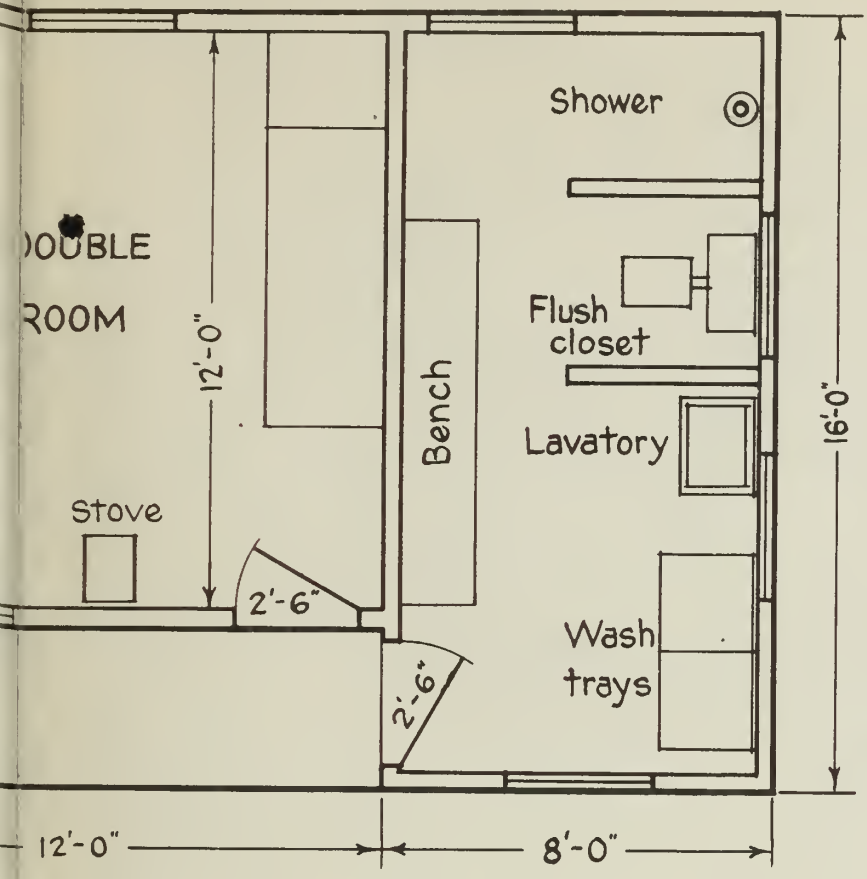
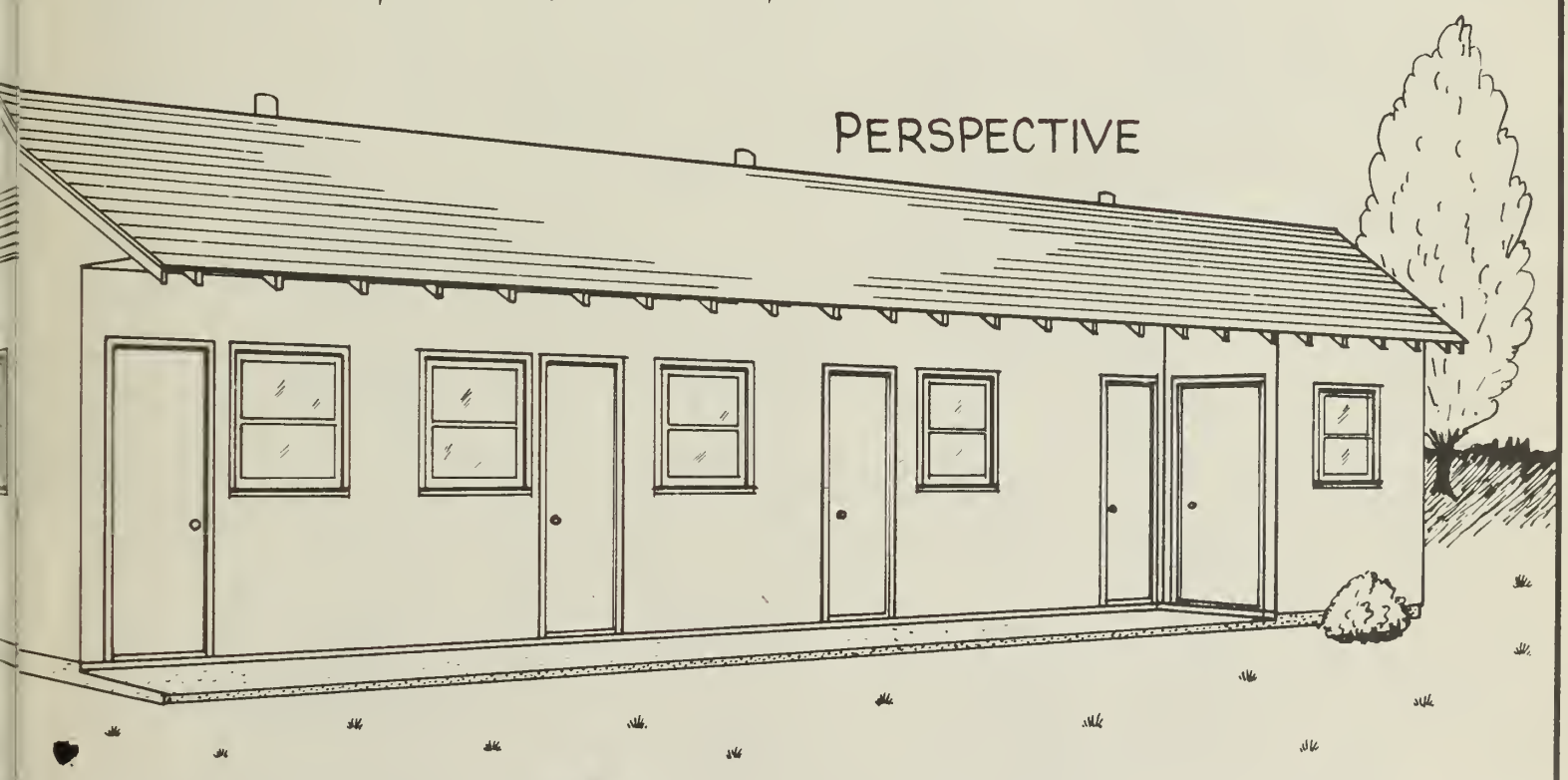


FLOOR PLAN

Note: This floor plan shows 3 sizes of rooms, which may be used in various combinations, all single, double, or combined, depending upon requirements. The perspective will then be changed accordingly. For long bunkhouses, one heated room may be used only for recreation.

PERSPECTIVE



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GICULTURAL ENGINEERING
HE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
Y FARM—DAVIS, CAL.

PLAN NO B-H 10

BUNK HOUSE WITH SEPARATE ROOMS

APPROVED FOR DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING: H.B.E.

DRAWN BY L.W.N. TRACED BY C.H.H. DATE 4-7-44

Closets

The clothes closets may be constructed of panels or 1-inch lumber. Each should have a tight top, a hanger pole, and an inside shelf. A door is not necessary. Above each cot a 12-inch shelf, supported by brackets and placed on the closet wall, is recommended.

Bathroom

In the bathroom, the wall finish should be waterproof. The water heater is not shown, but is located here or in the adjacent recreation room, which may also contain the central heating plant. All plumbing work should comply with local ordinances or the standard code drafted and sponsored by the Pacific Coast Plumbing Inspectors' Association. Fixtures and accessories should be of simple standard design. A septic tank or cesspool is recommended for sanitary disposal of waste water.

Electric Wiring

The electric wiring must satisfy the minimum requirements of the Electrical Safety Orders of the California Industrial Accident Commission. Each room should contain at least one ceiling light (controlled by a wall switch) and preferably two or more convenience outlets. The bathroom requires a ceiling light, two wall lights, and a double convenience outlet.

Painting

Two coats of a good lead-and-oil paint are recommended for all exterior woodwork. Paint for the interior of the bath is also advisable, particularly if wood finish is used.

Estimates

The cost of this building will vary according to the materials available and the type of labor used. In preparing lumber lists and estimating costs, the local dealer will be of great assistance.